

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

151-4550-~~0006~~ 0009

historic S. P. Gebhart House

and or common Same

2. Location

street & number 105 North Iuka Street

not for publication

city, town Pratt

vicinity of

state Kansas

code 20

county Pratt

code 151

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name J. Richard and Helen E. Farmer

316-672-3062

street & number 105 North Iuka

city, town Pratt

vicinity of

state Kansas 67124

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds

street & number Pratt County Courthouse, 300 South Ninnescah

city, town Pratt

state Kansas 67124

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A

has this property been determined eligible? yes ☒ no

date N/A

N/A federal N/A state N/A county N/A local

depository for survey records

N/A

city, town N/A

state N/A



## 7. Description

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☒ unaltered  
☐ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date \_\_\_\_\_

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The S. P. Gebhart House (ca. 1907-1910) is located at 105 North Iuka Street in Pratt, Pratt County, Kansas (pop. 6,885). The two-story, three-bay wide by two-bay deep, frame, Colonial Revival, ridge hipped roof structure measures forty-two feet by forty-two feet. Its facade orientation is east. It stands on a rusticated, limestone block foundation and is roofed with red pantiles. Centrally located dormers covered with red pantiles pierce the east, north, and south roof elevations. The house sits on the northern half of a double lot, on the northwest corner of the West First Street and Iuka Street intersection, two blocks west of Pratt's downtown. The house appears to be the earliest building on the block, most of the other residences appear to date from after 1940.

Narrow lap siding covers the body of the structure. A belt course runs just above the first floor windows and just below the second floor windows. The house flares out slightly just below the second story belt course. A dentilled entablature graces the building's eaves. Fluted, Doric pilasters mark the building's corners, running from the second story belt course to the entablature and from the first story belt course to the sill. A one-story porch with a centrally located, projecting pediment runs the width of the eastern elevation. It is supported by pairs of Doric columns and roofed with red pantiles. A brick chimney with rusticated limestone capping pierces the eastern slope of the northern elevation's dormer.

The first level of the building's three-bay, eastern facade is comprised of an off-center, leaded glass door with sidelights flanked by a 15/1 double hung window to the north. This composition is framed by the previously mentioned one-story porch. A projecting, three-sided bay window of 9/1-15/1-9/1 double hung configuration stands in the center bay of the second level. Fifteen-over-one-double hung windows flank the bay window on its north and south sides. A projecting gable roof dormer projects from the roof's center. A palladian window with tracery which is marked with a keystone surround and a broken pediment supported by scrolled brackets comprises the dormer's fenestration.

The first level of the south elevation is comprised of a three-sided, projecting bay on the western corner. The bay is roofed with red pantiles. A three-bay, rectangular window unit with leaded glass panes projects from the stair landing level on the building's east side. A double hung window stands above the first floor bay on the second floor. A ridge hipped roof dormer projects from the southern elevation's roof, exhibiting an 8/1 double hung window treatment and scrolled brackets.

The first level of the north elevation is comprised of a projecting window unit with three 9/1 bays in the eastern corner, flanked by a 1/1 double hung window to the west. The northern elevation's second level is comprised of two 1/1 double hung windows above the first story openings. A centrally located ridge hipped roof dormer with 8/1 double hung fenestration pierces the roof slope. A two-story, one-bay deep porch projects from the building's western side, one bay is visible on the northern elevation.

The northern two-thirds of the rear or western elevation is comprised a projecting, gable roofed, six-bay wide by one-bay deep unit housing a sleeping porch on the second level and a kitchen on the first level. A one-bay, recessed unit comprises the southern third. The fenestration treatment on the rear elevation is generally 1/1 double hung.

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The interior plan of the S. P. Gebhart house is based on the four room over four room plan with an open staircase standing in one of the squares. The house has a one-bay deep addition to its rear with a staircase running from the kitchen to the attic. Craftsman and classically inspired oak woodwork is seen in the semi-partitions, the wainscotting, the baseboards, the ceiling beams, the doors, and the staircases. The bronze hanging light fixtures are of the Craftsman style and exhibit frosted and etched glass globes.

The S. P. Gebhart house maintains a high degree of architectural and structural integrity. The only significant change being that the all white house originally had a yellow (or some other light color) body, white trim, and forest green ( or some other dark color) window sashes. The house retains its original red pantile roof.



## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

**Specific dates** c. 1907–1910 **Builder/Architect** Harry Newton Duckworth, Builder

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The S. P. Gebhart house (ca. 1907–1910) is being nominated to the National Register under criteria B and C for its historical association with Samuel P. Gebhart (1853 or 1855–1935) and Harry Newton Duckworth (1877–?) and for its architectural significance. The two-story, frame, Colonial Revival, foursquare was the home of Samuel P. Gebhart, the publisher, owner, and editor of the Pratt Union from 1896 until his death in 1935. Harry Newton Duckworth, a contractor active throughout southeastern Kansas during the first quarter of the Twentieth Century, designed and built the Gebhart house. The S. P. Gebhart house is one of the few Colonial Revival homes to be built in Pratt but one of many buildings constructed by Duckworth that still stand in the community. The residence maintains an extraordinary high degree of architectural and structural integrity.

Gebhart moved to Pratt soon after it was established as the Pratt County seat in 1887. Trained as a teacher in Graysville, Ohio, Gebhart and his wife Martha E. Fawcett, came to Kansas in 1885, where Gebhart served as the Superintendent of the Sterling City Schools in Rice County until 1887. Gebhart taught at a rural school northwest of Pratt until 1889 when he was elected Superintendent of Public Education in Pratt County, a post he retained until 1897. Gebhart maintained a lifelong interest in education, serving many years on the Pratt City Board of Education and donating money for the construction of schools and the acquisition of books and supplies.

In 1896 Gebhart purchased the Pratt Union (est. 1895), the town's weekly newspaper. This acquisition provided Gebhart a broader forum to develop his political and entrepreneurial aspirations. He was an active Democrat who entertained William Jennings Bryan at his home in 1911. He served one term as Pratt's Mayor and served many terms on the Pratt City Council.

Gebhart owned many improved and unimproved lots in Pratt and 850 acres in Pratt County. He was the President of the Pratt County Loan and Investment Company, the Vice-President of the Wheatbelt Building and Loan Association, and had interests in the Pratt Marble and Granite Company.

Duckworth, an Elk County, Kansas native, established himself as one of the leading building contractors in southeast Kansas during the first quarter of the Twentieth Century. His seven year tenure in Pratt, which began in 1906, represented his first significant contractual experience. He appears to have apprenticed for several years in Independence, Kansas and then in Seattle, Washington prior to his Pratt commitment. Duckworth is credited with many of the town's residences and commercial structures. Duckworth left Pratt in 1913 to establish a permanent base in Independence, Kansas.

The S. P. Gebhart house is a finely crafted example of the popular early Twentieth Century foursquare concept and a rare Pratt example of a full-blown Colonial Revival structure. The interior woodwork and the leaded glass windows and doors were imported from Michigan and Canada respectively. Pratt's location on the Plains barred the

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possibility of local oak being milled for the interior woodwork of the house, in addition Pratt's remoteness and relative youth effectively hindered the possibility that local expertise would be able to build the leaded glass windows and doors for the house. By constructing a house which could not have been built by solely relying on local materials and expertise, Duckworth made a significant architectural contribution to Pratt. The S. P. Gebhart house is perhaps the finest example of residential architecture designed and built by Duckworth in Pratt.

The Gebhart family retained ownership of the house until 1950, when it was sold to its present owners, who continue to use the property as a single family residence.



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Pratt

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A 

1	4
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5	2	2	7	8	0
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4	1	6	6	3	9	5
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B 

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C 

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**Verbal boundary description and justification** The nominated property stands on a rectangular tract comprised of lots 5 and 6 in Block 23 of Simpson's Addition in Pratt, Kansas. It is bounded to the east by North Iuka, to the south by 1st street, to the west by an alley, and to the north by adjacent property lines.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

state N/A code N/A county N/A code N/A

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Martha Gray Hagedorn, Architectural Historian

organization Kansas State Historical Society date October 28, 1986

street & number 120 West Tenth telephone 913-196-5264

city or town Topeka state Kansas 66612

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

XX national XX state XX local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *James M. Smith*

title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society date October 28, 1986

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

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Bibliography: S. P. Gebhart house

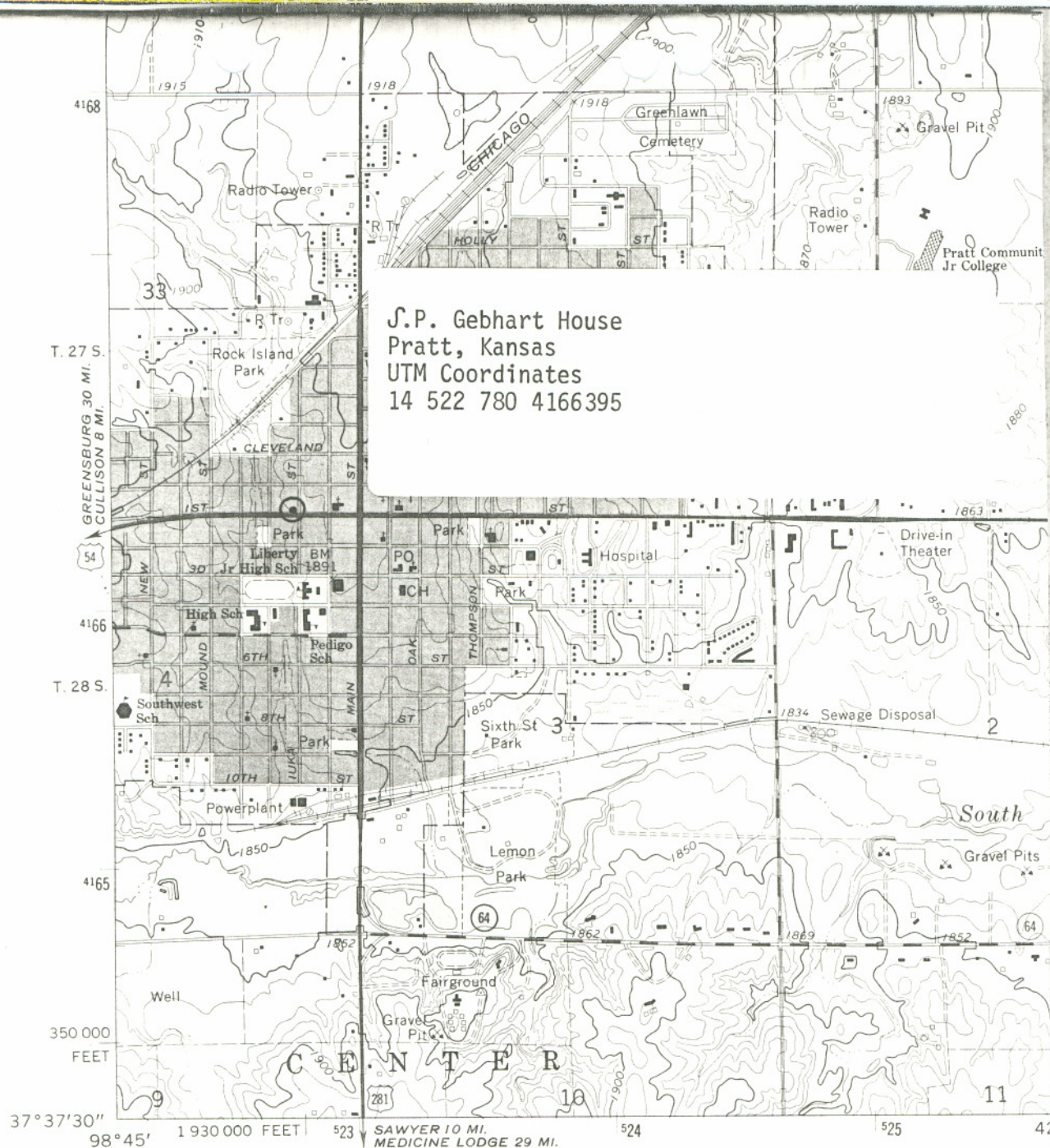
Connelley, W. E. History of Kansas, v. 3. (New York: Lewis Publishing, 1918).

Connelley, W. E. History of Kansas, v. 4. (New York: American Historical Society, 1928).

Farmer, Helen. "S. P. Gebhart House." National Register nomination draft, 1986).

Pratt Union, 19 September 1935.





(COATS)  
6259 III SE

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1965. Field checked 1968

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
 10,000-foot grid based on Kansas coordinate system, south zone  
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown

Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked

